English 11 – Writing Cycle #1 – The Transition from Innocence to Experience

Now that we are waist-deep in our discussion of JD Salinger’s The Catcher in the Rye, we should take a moment and consider the ideas that we have encountered thus far. In fact, our discussions have begun to constellate around two words: innocence and experience. We’ve begun to note that this narrative is an exploration of one character’s attempt to make the transition from the former condition to the later. Ths character has us discussing many interesting ideas: innocence, experience, maturity, immaturity, parenting, tragedy and grief.

Now we must compose our thoughts about the ideas that Salinger has offered us. In order to do this we will write a composition. To complete this assignment, you will need to choose one or two words (no more than three) from the list above, and then use them as the topic of your composition.

In order to compose our thoughts, we will use one of three modes of composition: argument, description, or research. In other words, we will argue about these ideas, describe these ideas, or gather relevant information about these ideas from relevant sources.

For this assignment, your composition should meet the following format guidelines…

* composed on Google Drive
* shared with sleonard@latinpcs.org (and anyone else you might choose)
* double-spaced, really one and a half spacing is fine as well
* five paragraphs, 300-500 words each
* thesis statement in bold print
* concluding statement in bold print

For this assignment, you will submit four drafts: a rough draft, two revised drafts, and a final draft. the calendar for submission is as follows…

* file created/shared: Monday 22 September
* rough draft: Friday 26 September
* revised draft1: Friday 3 October
* revised draft2: Friday 10 October
* final draft: Friday 17 October

All submissions prior to the final draft will be executed on Google Drive. Feedback will be primarily delivered through this channel, although each of you will receive no less than one one-on-one feedback session during the writing cycle.

Your final draft should be printed and submitted at the start of class on the date listed above. It should meet the following format requirements…

* printed on paper
* double-spaced or one-and-a-half-spaced
* acceptably fonted (more on this later)
* one staple through all of the pages in the upper, left-hand corner
* your name signed in the upper, right-hand corner in black or blue ink

All addendums or revisions to these instructions will be delivered through additional documentation.